Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-02

AID-05 /059 W

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R 170410Z FEB 75 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8027 INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: JA PINT

SUBJ: MINOBE SAYS HE WILL NOT SEEK REELECTION AS

TOKYO GOVERNOR

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: TOKYO 1581

SUMMARY: ON FEBRUARY 16, TOKYO GOVERNOR
MINOBE ANNOUCED THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK REELECTION IN APRIL.
HOWEVER, THIS SEEMS TO BE TACTICAL PLOY DESIGNED TO GAIN
SCP SUPPORT. END SUMMARY.

- 1. ON FEBRUARY 16, TOKYO GOVERNOR RYOKICHI MINOBE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK THIRD TERM IN APRIL ELECTION. MINOBE SAID THAT HE NEEDED BACKING OF BOTH JSP AND JCP IN CAMPAIGN, BUT, ALTHOUGH ELECTION DAY WAS DRAWING NEAR, HIS RELATIONS WITH JCP HAD NOT IMPROVED (REFTEL). MINOBE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD RECONSIDER DECISION IF MEDIATION EFFORT BY GROUP OF INTELLECTUALS SUCCEEDED.
- 2. MINOBE'S DECISION IS PRIMARILY RESULT OF HIS INABILITY TO BREAK IMPASSE WITH JCP OVER HANDLING OF FORMER ETA SOCIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUTCASTS (REFTEL). HOWEVER, JCP SPOKESMAN EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT

MINOBE FELT THAT THERE WAS NO PROSPECT FOR RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES. MEANWHILE, LDP MEMBERS, INCLUDING PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATE SHINTARO ISHIHARA, WERE QUICK TO LABEL MINOBE MOVE AS TACTIC DESIGNED TO FORCE JCP TO JOIN JSP IN BACKING HIM.

3. COMMENT: OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT LDP PEOPLE HAVE SCORED IT RIGHT. DESPITE HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT MINOBE CAN STILL BE "PERSUADED" TO RUN. HOWEVER, WHETHER OR NOT WHAT SEEMS TO BE TACTICAL PLOY DESIGNED TO FORCE JCP TO SUPPORT HIM WILL SUCCEED OR NOT REMAINS TO BE SEEM. HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR

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TAGS: PINT, JA, (MINOBE, RYOKICHI), (ISHIHARA, SHINTARO)
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